Marsha Bassett 235 Isbel Drive Santa Cruz, CA 95060

August 8, 1999

5794 99 AUS 13 P1:45

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

Re: 98N-1230; 96P-0418: 97P-0197

I believe that the FDA should be doing more than simply using warning labels on egg cartons and attempting to regulate egg refrigeration temperatures. How can you in good conscience not see that cruelty and contamination are linked. It is cruel and inhumane to starve laying hens to force molting. Forced molting is also a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens and their eggs. Forced molting has been scientifically shown to promote disease by destroying the starving hens immune systems not to mention they then have an even more miserable life.

I know that the FDA has the jurisdiction to ban farm practices, you were petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting, this petition should be granted immediately.

Sincerely,

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ C 190

See File Number: 97P-0197/ C-1 9 1

97P-0197/ C191 96P-0418/ C190